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Our West Indian Neighbors. The Islands of the Caribbean Sea, "America's Mediterranean"; their picturesque features, fascinating history, and attractions for the traveler, nature-lover, settler and pleasure-seeker. By Frederick A. Ober. 433 pp. Ills., index. James Pott & Co., New York, 1907. \$2.50. 8 x 5½.

This is an extremely interesting, popular sketch of the traditions, history and present status of the islands of the West Indies. The book conducts the reader to the Bahamas, Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, Porto Rico and along the Lesser Antilles to Trinidad. The chapters are filled with a variety of information concerning the picturesque features, climate, the historical background and present activities of the inhabitants and they offer much that the traveler or the student wishes to know. It is impossible not to contrast the foreign governed islands like Porto Rico and Jamaica with the representatives of native rule, or misrule, as exemplified in Santo Domingo and Haiti. A large number of the smaller and less known islands have more than their proportionate share of the book which adds to the value and enriches the romantic side of the volume.

R. M. BROWN.

SOUTH AMERICA

Le Brésil Méridional. Étude économique sur les États du Sud, S. Paulo, Paraná, Santa-Catharina et Rio-Grande-do-Sul. Par C. M. Delgado de Carvalho. 529 pp. Map. Bibliotheque Nationale de Rio de Janeiro, 1910. 7½ x 5.

A compendium of many printed works about the four southern provinces of Brazil. Although the author's name sounds Brazilian there is no sign of his direct observations in the work, a personal note that is missed. To enliven his pages, quotations are made from those who have visited the region, among them often and acceptably M. Pierre Denis. Even the taste and effect of *maté* is described in this way, at second hand. But there is much good matter about colonization in the various provinces, and life and resources. Oddly, it is difficult always to ascertain what sort of prices the settlers pay for their land. A useful little sketch map precedes a brief account of the relief of the land and the main work gives an account of São Paulo, as the land of coffee, Paraná and Santa Catharina, as the land of maté, and the Rio Grande as the land of stock raising with much detail of interest regarding the present condition and future prospects of the people.

MARK JEFFERSON.

The Sea and the Jungle. By H. M. Tomlinson. 354 pp. Duckworth & Co., London, 1912. 7s. 6d. 9 x 6.

A central fact concerning the vast forest of Brazil stretching across the South American continent from far below to a few degrees above the equator is that its luxuriant vegetation defies the efforts of casual settlers. Nothing less than a teeming population could properly subdue it to human uses. This forest region is the largest compact body of fertile territory that yet remains in any part of the world unimproved and—with incalculable treasures for commerce as well as for science—in great part unexploited. Nearly the entire population of Brazil is still found in a comparatively narrow strip of land extending from the line of Uruguay, northward along the Atlantic coast to Pará, and thence to Manaus and to outposts on the rivers. While the poles kept man at a distance by cold, this forest has accomplished the same result by the power of its rank growth, by its too abundant tropical resources—in a word, by its wealth. Mr. Tomlinson gives us in the more important part of this book such impressions of the Brazilian forest as he received in the course of an interesting voyage. He sailed on the English steamer *Capella* from Swansea to Porto Velho, near the cataracts of the Madeira River. There, as he says, in the center of the continent, "again the conquering forest is being attacked." The two-thousand ton steamship *Capella* carried supplies for the establishment at Porto Velho, eastern terminus of the new Madeira-Mamoré Railway. We commend especially the author's account (pages 221 to 325) of this railway undertaking, as he saw it in 1909-10, and the description of his longest journey through the conquering forest at a distance from the ship.